

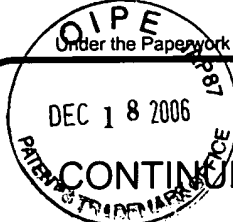
Doc Code:

PTO/SB/30 (09-06)

Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

DEC 18 2006



REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number | 09/827,887 |
| Filing Date | April 6, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Charles D. Claude |
| Art Unit | 1773 |
| Examiner Name | Sheeba Ahmed |
| Attorney Docket Number | ACSC 60087 (2548P) |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, any underpayment of fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-2425. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 790.00 enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Signature | | Date | DECEMBER 15, 2006 |
| Name (Print / Type) | GUNTHER O. HANKE | Registration No. | 32,989 |

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------------|------|-------------------|
| Signature | | Date | DECEMBER 15, 2006 |
| Name (Print / Type) | GUNTHER O. HANKE | | |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing the burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

12/16/2006 12:16:00 PM FAXADU1 00000046 09627887 750.00 0-

DEC 18 2006

Doc Code:

PTO/SB/17 (07-06)

Approved for use through 01/31/2007. OMB 0651-0032

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

Fees pursuant to the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (H.R. 4818).

**FEE TRANSMITTAL
for FY 2006**☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27**TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)** **\$790.00****Complete if Known**

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number | 09/827,887 |
| Filing Date | April 6, 2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Charles D. Claude |
| Examiner Name | Sheeba Ahmed |
| Art Unit | 1773 |
| Attorney Docket No. | ACSC 60087 (2548P) |

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)☒ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Money Order ☐ None ☐ Other (please identify): _____☒ Deposit Deposit Account Number: 06-2425 Deposit Account Name: FULWIDER PATTON LLP

For the above-identified deposit account, the Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayments of fee(s) under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17☒ Credit any overpayments**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**FEE CALCULATION (All the fees below are due upon filing or may be subject to a surcharge.)****1. BASIC FILING, SEARCH, AND EXAMINATION FEES**

| Application Type | FILING FEES | | SEARCH FEES | | EXAMINATION FEES | | Fees Paid(\$) |
|------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| | Fee (\$) | <u>Small Entity</u> Fee (\$) | Fee (\$) | <u>Small Entity</u> Fee (\$) | Fee (\$) | <u>Small Entity</u> Fee (\$) | |
| Utility | 300 | 150 | 500 | 250 | 200 | 100 | |
| Design | 200 | 100 | 100 | 50 | 130 | 65 | |
| Plant | 200 | 100 | 300 | 150 | 160 | 80 | |
| Reissue | 300 | 150 | 500 | 250 | 600 | 300 | |
| Provisional | 200 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | |

2. EXCESS CLAIM FEES

| Fee Description | Fee (\$) | <u>Small Entity</u> Fee (\$) |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| Each claim over 20 (including Reissues) | 50 | 25 |
| Each independent claim over 3 (including Reissues) | 200 | 100 |
| Multiple dependent claims | 360 | 180 |

| Total Claims | Extra Claims | Fee (\$) | Fee Paid (\$) |
|----------------------------------|--------------|----------|---------------|
| _____ - 20 or HP = _____ x _____ | | \$50.00 | \$0.00 |

HP = highest number of total claims paid for, if greater than 20.

| Indep. Claims | Extra Claims | Fee (\$) | Fee Paid (\$) |
|---------------------------------|--------------|----------|---------------|
| _____ - 3 or HP = _____ x _____ | | \$200.00 | \$0.00 |

HP = highest number of independent claims paid for, if greater than 3.

3. APPLICATION SIZE FEE

If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper (excluding electronically filed sequence or computer listing under 37 CFR 1.52(e)), the application size fee due is \$250 (\$125 for small entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(s).

| Total Sheets | Extra Sheets | Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof | Fee (\$) | Fee Paid (\$) |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------|
| _____ - 100 = _____ / 50 _____ | | _____ (round up to a whole) | x \$250.00 | \$0.00 |

4. OTHER FEE(S)

Non-English specification, \$130 fee (no small entity discount)

Other (e.g., late filing surcharge): RCE**\$790.00****SUBMITTED BY**

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------|-----------|---------------|
| Signature |  | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 32,989 | Telephone | 310 824 5555 |
| Name (Print/Type) | GUNTHER O. HANKE | | | Date | DEC. 15, 2006 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.